

CASE: 1120

1120-0-02.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

2 April 1976

CHG INCIDENT LOCATION FM XD 805 443 TO XD 8125 4324 BASED ON HQTRS 2ND
BTN, 26 MAR, 3RD MARDIV, FMF, DTD 14 APR 68.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

11 August 1993

ON 8 JUL 93, A SUB-ELEMENT OF IE3 TRAVELED TO THON TRAM HAMLET, HUONG TAN
VILLAGE, HUONG HOA DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE, TO INVESTIGATE CASE 1120.
WHILE IN THON TRAM HAMLET (XD828428) THE JOINT TEAM INTERVIEWED LOCAL
VILLAGERS BUT WERE UNABLE TO PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT CASE 1120. AT
THE COMPLETION OF THE INTERVIEWS, THE SUB-ELEMENT TRAVELED TO THE LAST
KNOWN LOCATION OF THE MISSING INDIVIDUALS (XD812432) AND CONDUCTED A
SURFACE SEARCH AND SURVEY OF THE AREA WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. THERE WERE NO
REMAINS OR BURIAL SITES AT THE LOCATION OR IN THE SURROUNDING AREAS. (REF
3)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 16 AUGUST 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1122-0-01 (ACCNO 0182) Status: (F) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: MCMURRAY, FRED HOWELL JR Date Status assigned: 13 Nov 1974

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	02	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	.38 CAL PISTOL
Serial No	DATA	Height	72 in / 1.83 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	DATA	Weight	195 lb / 88.3 kg	Duty pos	ACFT CMDR
Home State	SO. CAROLINA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXD925512
Lat/Long: 164414N / 1064822E
Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 1
Mission Province: QUANG TRI
(formerly):
Mission District: HUONG HOA
Mission Date: 7 Apr 1968
Mission Category: 1
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Jun 93
Surveys: Jun 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: CRASH SITE
Survivability: (5) In the aircraft at the time of the crash

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	OH13S	Serial:	9084
Crash Type:	Enemy action	Engine Type:	VO435
Call Sign:	HELO 84	1 Serial:	#
Year:	63	2 Serial:	\$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 1122

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

6 February 1975

AT 1600 HOURS ON 7 APRIL 1968, 1LT FRED H. MCMURRAY JR. WAS PILOTING AN OH-13S HELICOPTER, (#63-9084), WITH ONE OBSERVER/DOOR GUNNER, SGT JAMES J. POWERS. THE AIRCRAFT DEPARTED THE 1ST AIR CAVALRY DIVISION BASE AT LANDING ZONE STUD WITH AN AH-1G ARMED HELICOPTER ESCORT FOR A RECONNAISSANCE MISSION IN SUPPORT OF AN OPERATION. 1LT MCMURRAY WAS FLYING LOW-LEVEL IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES (GC) XD 925 512 WHEN HE REPORTED SEEING SEVERAL RECENTLY PREPARED AUTOMATIC WEAPONS POSITIONS AND FRESHLY USED TRAILS.

1LT MCMURRAY MARKED THE LOCATION WITH A SMOKE GRENADE TO ALLOW THE AH-1G TO IDENTIFY AND FIRE ROCKETS ON THE TARGET. HE ALSO REPORTED SIGHTING NVA SOLDIERS, WHOM HE ENGAGED. THE ESCORT HELICOPTER CONTINUED TO PLACE SUPPRESSIVE FIRE IN THE AREA AND TRANSMITTED A REQUEST FOR A RIFLE PLATOON, WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IMMEDIATELY AND WAS OVER THE AREA IN ABOUT 15 MINUTES. DURING THE FIGHTING, 1LT MCMURRAY'S AIRCRAFT RECEIVED ENEMY FIRE, BEGAN BURNING WHILE IN FLIGHT, AND CRASHED. (REF 1)

AN INDIVIDUAL (IDENTIFIED AS SGT POWERS) WAS OBSERVED ABOUT 75-100 METERS FROM THE WRECKAGE. A RESCUE AIRCRAFT LANDED AND PICKED HIM UP; SGT POWERS WAS BADLY BURNED. SGT POWERS INDICATED THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO GET TO 1LT MCMURRAY DUE TO THE FIRE AND EXPLODING AMMUNITION ONBOARD. HE STATED THAT 1LT MCMURRAY WAS STILL IN THE BURNING WRECKAGE AND HAD LITTLE CHANCE OF SURVIVAL. SEVERAL LOW-LEVEL PASSES WERE MADE OVER THE WRECKAGE, BUT THERE WERE NO SIGNS OF LIFE. SEARCH AND RESCUE EFFORTS WERE SUSPENDED AT DARK.

ON 8 APRIL A RIFLE PLATOON AND A COMBAT TRACKER TEAM WERE INSERTED TO SEARCH THE WRECKAGE AND SURROUNDING AREA. TWO SLIGHTLY BURNED CHEST PROTECTORS AND ONE FLIGHT HELMET BELONGING TO SGT POWERS WERE LOCATED, BUT THERE WERE NO SIGNS OF 1LT MCMURRAY. INVESTIGATION OF THE SITE BY THE COMBAT TRACKER TEAM REVEALED ONE SANDAL TRACK, TWO BAREFOOT TRACKS, AND WHAT WAS BELIEVED TO BE THE HEEL PRINT OF A GI BOOT. AS THERE WERE NO FURTHER CLUES ABOUT THE LOCATION OF 1LT MCMURRAY, THE SEARCH TEAM WAS EXTRACTED.

OFFICIAL AERIAL SEARCH EFFORTS TERMINATED ON 13 APRIL 1968, BUT THE 3RD BATTALION, 8TH REGIMENT, (MARINE CORPS), LOCATED 6-7 KILOMETERS NORTHEAST OF THE CRASH SITE, WAS ASKED TO SEARCH FOR 1LT MCMURRAY DURING THEIR OPERATION IN THE AREA. THEY REPORTED NOTHING. (REF 1, 2 & 3)

CASE) DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. 1LT MCMURRAY IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== REFERENCES ===

6 February 1975

REFERENCES: <1> PKT, HQ USARV, W/ENCLOSURES, 11 MAY 68. <2> MSG, CG 1ST AIR CAV DIV LZ STUD, RVN, 090945Z APR 68. <3> RPT, 525TH MI GROUP, 14 JUNE 68. <4> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH 240354Z JUL 93.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

12 August 1993

ON 16 JUL 93, A SUB-ELEMENT OF IE3 TRAVELED TO THE VICINITY OF THE LOSS LOCATION LISTED IN U.S. RECORDS IN HUONG HOA DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 1122. DURING THIS INVESTIGATION, IE3 FOUND A LOCAL RESIDENT WITH LIMITED HEARSAY INFORMATION OF AN UNIDENTIFIED HELICOPTER WHICH CRASHED IN THE VICINITY OF THE LOSS LOCATION. A BODY ARMOR BREAST PLATE AND SMALL PIECES OF LIGHT WEIGHT ALLOY METAL WERE DISCOVERED AND PHOTOGRAPHED AT AN UNIDENTIFIED HAMLET APPROXIMATELY ONE KILOMETER FROM THE LOSS LOCATION. NO WITNESSES WERE LOCATED AT THIS SITE TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION. THE JOINT TEAM CONDUCTED A SITE SURVEY OF THE LOSS LOCATION ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 1122 AND WAS UNABLE TO LOCATE ANY WRECKAGE, PERSONAL EFFECTS, REMAINS OR BURIAL SITES. (REF 4)